

Abstract

A method and system for regulating use of a printer through key pair cryptography. A user encrypts an aspect of a print job with a private key of the user. The aspect may relate to the content of the print job and once encrypted
5 may constitute a digital signature. The printer receives the print job, obtains a public key of the user, where the public key forms a key pair with the private key, and decodes the encrypted aspect. If decoding is successful, the printer outputs a document based on the print job. The present invention also provides for optional re-verification when the user is proximate to the printer, before the
10 document is printed. The re-verification requires that the user prove local possession of the private key.